

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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## CARRYING OUT THE "CANAL PROGRAM"

The formal ceremonies that marked the completion of the Inter-Island Steam Navigation Company's floating drydock yesterday have wider significance than merely the addition of another large plant to Honolulu's growing industries. This plant at once puts the port of Honolulu in a position to compete with other ports on the Pacific for one large element in a rapidly-developing ocean commerce.

A member of the territorial harbor commission, coming back recently from a trip to the Atlantic coast, said this:

"Honolulu's biggest asset in the fight for the Panama canal trade will be the presence of the Inter-Island drydock."

He found the shipping men of the East quick to ask the question, "What facilities has Honolulu for drydocking our steamers, for repair work?" And because the Inter-Island had displayed foresight and business acumen as well as public spirit, he was able to answer that Honolulu in this respect at least will be "ready for the canal."

What private capital has been able to do, public capital must also do, not to conflict with the private drydock, but to supplement it with new wharves, ships, warehouses, and up-to-date equipment for handling freight cargoes.

Honolulu is far from "ready for the canal." Yesterday's ceremonies of christening a new drydock should be followed by unceasing efforts to do the many other things vital in a program of preparedness.

## MANIFEST POLITICAL DESTINY

United States Senator William E. Borah of Idaho, generally regarded as a public servant of the highest type, delivered a notable speech in New Jersey a few days ago in which he declared that the manifest destiny of the Progressive party is to capture the Republican party and revitalize it along the lines of progressivism.

By the Progressive party, it should be understood, Borah means not only the men who stood with Roosevelt at Armageddon but the thousands of Republicans who were out of sympathy with the leaders of the G. O. P. in 1912 yet who declined to sanction a bolt or a third-term movement.

Borah's speech is indicative of the trend of national politics this fall. That trend, it is becoming more and more apparent, is toward amalgamation of the two parties, with probably an out-and-out Progressive for president in 1916. In his address to the New Jersey legislature Borah said:

There were a number of people who were singularly interested in the Progressive cause who did not join the third party movement. They believed then and they believe now that the vast majority of Republican voters are progressive; and that in order to make a Progressive party it is only necessary to organize the voters of that party. Whatever the mistakes were at Chicago, they did not change the personnel or the character of the rank and file of the party; they did not change their views on citizenship, upon currency, upon corporation control, upon social justice or any other question.

The great body of the voters who belong to that party were unaffected by any mistakes which were made at Chicago and, however sincere those may have been who saw fit by reason of those mistakes to leave the party, it must be conceded that the only thing that was necessary, as a matter of fact, was to purge the party of the features of the national convention system, which have become objectionable.

The last six months have demonstrated to the satisfaction of anyone, it would seem to me, that the vast majority of those who voted for the third party last fall have concluded to realign themselves with the Republican organization. They are doing this because they are convinced that it is the only effective way for them to get results. More than 60 per cent of them have gone back to Michigan; less than 10 per cent remained in the third party in the test in Maine and just about 10 per cent remained in the third party in the test in West Virginia.

The vote on a judgeship in Illinois a few days ago disclosed the fact that although they had 36,000 votes last November, they had only 9,000 last Tuesday.

In view of these figures, and the inevitable trend of politics as disclosed by these elections, is it not the thing for the Progressive forces to do now to take possession of the Republican party, organize it from top to bottom, write a Progressive platform and elect a Progressive candidate in 1916? All of which is thoroughly within our power to do if we unite for the purpose.

Little stands in the way of the program that Borah outlines. If the Roosevelt Progressives will abandon their stand against the use of the Republican party name, the rest of the merger will be fairly easy, for the rank and file of the

Republicans are as anxious to unseat the Barnes-Penrose-Lorimer element as are the Bull Moose apostles.

## MORE ABOUT THE FRONTAGE-TAX

A correspondent in a letter published elsewhere today calls attention to the remarkable benefits obtained in California under the frontage-tax plan of local improvement. Richmond, a thriving young municipality, has literally pulled itself out of a mud-hole. Honolulu, following the same plan, should pull itself out of the chuck-holes that now plentifully adorn main-travelled streets.

In California the property directly benefited pays its share of the cost of improvement. This same principle should obtain down here. It will probably be found that some property not fronting on the street to be improved is directly benefited by the improvement. To determine the extent of the district subject to special tax will be no small job, but what other cities have done surely Honolulu can do.

Honolulu's needs in the way of schools, a city hall, a city hospital, new fire-houses, extension of the hydrant system, extension of the police and fire-alarm box systems, development of the water, sewer and storm-drain systems,—to mention only a few of the most pressing wants—make it imperative, as Senator Judd has pointed out, that property benefited by special street improvements pay for its proportion of the benefits.

If there is a supervisor or a private citizen with any other proposal for financing the Greater Honolulu, let him arise and speak.

The christening of the new Inter-Island drydock yesterday opens up an interesting possibility in the way of controversy. "Hoolana" is the name of the structure, and in the crowd of spectators at the christening were between three and five hundred varying translations of the word. Some say "hoolana" is "to make floating," others, "to float." Still others maintain that the word is adjectival, "floating." Several disputants narrowly averted good-humored hostilities in the discussion. In the interests of public enlightenment, this paper will open its columns to the etymological skirmish that is bound to place unless the wind changes.

Boss Murphy of Tammany Hall is not willing to resign his power. Although overwhelmingly defeated and discredited in the recent city and state election, he is out to fight. Dudley Field Malone, Wilson's choice for collector of the port. It will be a losing fight. Murphy's reign is probably ended; at least, so long as Wilson is president, Tammany Hall will receive no comfort from the White House.

Advocates of non-intervention in Mexico can hardly criticize Wilson's course. He is showing a forbearance that is admirable and a strength of character that is unusual, and if the signs are read aright, pressure is being brought on Huerta, which even that stiff-necked dictator cannot long resist. By the end of November Huerta is likely to step down and out.

Uncle Joe Cannon is talking of running for Congress again. Illinois could bear this with equanimity, but when the notorious William Lorimer begins getting ready for another race for the United States senate, the state becomes uneasy of its reputation.

Czar Ferdinand of Bulgaria is getting uneasy about his throne. The Bulgarians have a rough-and-ready system of recall that is rather effective.

Old Porfirio Diaz advises Huerta to resign for the good of his country—and Porfirio knows what he is talking about.

Fighting the devil with fire seems to be the British militant idea of campaigning for the ballot.

Possibly Mexican intervention is being held up until Dr. Juan B. Ruffo arrives on the scene.

Naturally, Malone ought to be able to give Murphy all the fight he seeks.

If Yuan Shih-Kai has his way, he will be the emperor of a republic.

Legislation in Washington is now just one caucus after another.

In this emergency, why not recall the Colonel?

# LETTERS ON TIMELY TOPICS

[The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space to anonymous communications.]

## RED CROSS SUGGESTION.

EUGENICS.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Sir: The attention of lawmakers, playwrights and even journalists might well be asked to a recent statement of Karl Pearson, head of the Galton laboratory of the University of London. Pointing out that the ideal of the founder of eugenics was racial betterment by the scientific study of heredity and environment, and then by a popular movement emphasizing the national importance of these factors and urging their consideration by legislators and social reformers, he went on to say that before his death Sir Francis Galton was depressed by the failure to perceive that much scientific progress must be made before men started rashly to apply conclusions. "Years of patient work," says Mr. Pearson, "in medical, social observation and genetic experiment are needed before the laws of eugenics can be dogmatically stated." How much looser thinking there is in America upon eugenics, is evident to any one who picks up one of the recent magazines giving an account of the "eugenic" baby exhibition in Denver, attends a "eugenic" play, reads of the "eugenic" marriage laws of Pennsylvania and the west. The harm of such loose thinking was lately remarked upon by a scientist who noted a press statement that, "eugenically," a man weak in certain physical or mental qualities should find a mate strong in those directions. Even in the eugenic millennium men will have to use their minds.

EDUCATOR.

## PRaise FOR THE FRONTAGE-TAX PLAN.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Sir:—I read with much interest the report of the meeting of Kaimuki residents at Liliuokalani school, as published last night, and also the letter of Observer, and I would ask the privilege of stating a few observations of the frontage-tax scheme as it obtains in California—my home state—and particularly in one of the cities of the northern part of the state. In order that I may not be too severely censured, I make a misstatement when I mention the new law in Hawaii. I will say that I am not wholly familiar with its provisions, but when I speak of my observations in California, I do so with a fair knowledge of the question. In California, the general principle is, as Observer so aptly says, "He who dances must pay." The property owner pays only for the work actually done on streets that pass his property when the original improvement is made, but he must pay his ordinary rate of taxation to help maintain streets in other parts of the city that have been completed.

In the northern part of California, I think the city that has taken the most interest in the frontage improvement is the city of Richmond, from which place I came to Honolulu about two years ago. This city, which 10 years ago was a big marsh and grain field, is today one of the most progressive cities in California—in fact, only seven years ago, its business thoroughfares were bogs in the winter time, with three or four feet of mud to wade through. I recall witnessing an amusing incident there in 1907, when a brewery wagon sank in the mud after floundering around like a drunken man in an effort to cross the street to deliver a keg of beer to a customer on the opposite side, but the driver was resourceful and rushed to the blacksmith shop and had a wide-runner sledge constructed and a couple of hours afterward was sliding his beer over the mud streets as though it were an everyday occurrence. But now things are different. And all because of the frontage tax law enacted by the California legislature about that time.

Today Richmond has over 150 miles of the best streets in the world, and more new streets are being constructed—all on the frontage tax plan. The cost runs from about \$200 to about \$350 per lot, depending on the amount of fill or grading to be done, and the particular quality of road desired. The complete payment of the assessment can be made at the time the street is accepted by the city and the interest of deferred payments ascertained. In placing the call for bids, it is ascertained that the city has sufficient money to cover a portion of the

cost of construction. In the first place the street is padlocked for by those desiring the improvement. Two-thirds of the property owners within the district to be improved having to sign the petition before the call is issued. In some few instances large property-holders have been able to temporarily defeat the desire of the many small holders, but a little scheming by enlarging the proposed district in order to overcome the large land-holders has worked like a charm. The corner-lot man is the only sufferer by the scheme and usually he is a willing martyr.

The tax rate for the city as a whole is not raised in the least by the work in any one part of the city. The district securing the improvement agrees to complete the payments within a specified time, and it does.

Now I would like to say a word about Observer's observation that there would be more clerks necessary to handle the work, certain things would get lost, and things would get mixed up in the shuffle. Sure, they would, where everybody is in politics and cannot see the interests of the taxpayer except for what they can get out of him, or her. The city of Richmond was one of the first cities to take up a commission form of government, and all politics is eliminated. It is a case of the most popular and efficient man winning, regardless of party affiliations. The commissioners are supreme. They hire and fire the auditor, tax collector, city clerk and police chief. The coroner's duties are performed by the county government. And with the exception of the police chief, no head of a department has more than one assistant, to my knowledge, and there are dozens of jobs of street improvement going on all the time, besides harbor and other works. The tax rate up to last year when harbor bonds were voted, was \$1.00. The assessable property has increased many-fold in value by the improved condition of the streets; factories have been induced to locate by reason of the progressiveness of the city and the low tax rate. Any member of the council can be recalled for cause. Let the supervisors of Honolulu forget that they are Democrats or Republicans, as the case may be, and remember that they are just men working shoulder to shoulder with their brother taxpayers and citizens and thereby inspire the confidence of their fellow-men and they will find themselves on the top wave of popularity from which it would be hard to dislodge them except by some disloyal act they have committed, and it wouldn't take long for them to hear about it, either.

MALIHINI.

## ARMY VIEWS ON THE CANTEN.

Honolulu, Oahu, Nov. 12, 1913. Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Sir: I noticed in last night's issue of the Star-Bulletin the statement that the surgeon-general was not opposed to the army canteen. The statement which was printed in your paper was that Colonel L. M. Maus, chief surgeon and medical inspector of the eastern division of the U. S. army, has furnished valuable testimony showing that since the abolishment of the sale of liquors in the army, the conditions have improved vastly.

Yours truly,  
(Signed) GEO. W. PATY.

## AUSTRALIA SENDS OUT 152 TONS OF BUTTER IN MONTH

[By Latest Mail] MELBOURNE, Australia.—During the fortnight ending August 28, 1913, 1273 boxes of butter were shipped in Victoria for ports beyond the commonwealth. Of these 2346 boxes were of butter in bulk, weighing 73½ tons; 394 were of butter in packages, weighing 9½ tons, and 933 were of butter in tins, weighing 38½ tons. The total number of boxes destined for the United Kingdom was 2776, of which 1571 were salted and 1205 were unsalted; 478 boxes were destined for South African ports, and 1019 were for export to eastern and other ports. The actual exports of butter during the same period totaled 100½ tons, of which 38½ tons went to the United Kingdom, 17 tons went to South Africa and 44½ tons went to eastern and other ports. The approximate value of the butter exported amounted to £11,027.

During the month of August a total of 152 tons of butter was exported, 23½ tons of butter going to the United Kingdom, 22 tons to South African and other ports and 90½ tons going to eastern and other ports, while for the month of August, 1912, the figures were 209 tons exported, of which 24½ tons went to South Africa and 184½ tons to eastern and other ports.

## FOR RENT

Kalakaua Avenue	4 bedrooms	\$60.00
Pilioli Street	3 bedrooms	\$45.00
Alaha Lane	2 bedrooms	20.00
Tantalus	3 bedrooms	45.00

## FOR SALE

College Hills	House and lot	7350.00
Wilder Ave. & Kewalo St.	House and lot	7500.00
Anapuni Street	House and lot	4500.00
Pilioli Street	House and lot, including furniture	6800.00
Punahoa Street	House and lot	8000.00
Young Street	House and lot	3500.00
Young Street	House and lot	2500.00
Parker Street, College Hills	Lot	2500.00

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## LITTLE INTERVIEWS

—WILL MILES: There is going to be no shortage of politics this year, the direct primary law notwithstanding.

—MAYOR FERN: I am just thinking about my next grand ball for New Year's. The one that came off last New Year's was nul ka holomua.

—A. J. WIRTZ: The great importance of the civil service commission is just beginning to be realized. It has the best interests of the whole community at heart.

—E. E. BATTELLE: The incorporation of the Battelle Sugar Refining Company is coming along fine. I believe it will prove of greatest importance to the islands.

—C. G. BOCKUS: The hospitality of the Inter-Island Steam Navigation Company at the christening of the new floating drydock was the most lavish and splendid of anything I have seen here.

—JUDGE A. D. LARNACH: I find that taking Judge Monsarrat's place in the district court keeps me mighty busy with my own work to do besides. Judge Monsarrat has told me he will be gone a month.

—W. R. FARRINGTON: I am glad that Mr. Castle thinks I am exactly right, in spots. I am also glad that we have a president who has advanced "the crude idea" that it is our affair what sort of a ruler or dictator Mexico will have. Most every advanced American ideal put into practice has been characterized at one time or another, as crude. Mr. Castle apparently qualifies his doctrine of "my country, right or wrong," I prefer to take mine straight, especially when dealing with a problem in which alien friends figure.

# Personal Mention

HAROLD GIFFARD, of the firm of Giffard & Roth, will return from Hilo Tuesday. He left for that town Saturday. He plans to make a tour of the island with Harry Gray.

## MR. ROCKEFELLER HEADS TAX LIST

[By Latest Mail] NEW YORK. According to the personal tax assessments for 1913 made public Wednesday, John D. Rockefeller owns more property than any other man in New York City. His personal property is assessed at \$5,000,000. Other personal property assessments were: John D. Rockefeller, Jr., \$334,500; William Rockefeller, \$300,000; Thomas F. Ryan, \$280,000; Mrs. Russell Sage, \$464,000; Herbert L. Satterlee, \$500,000; Jacob H. Schiff, \$400,000; James Spover, \$300,000; Herman Bleichen, \$500,000. This does not include real estate, stocks or bonds.

Forest fires continue to destroy lives by hundreds and tangible assets averaging upward of \$50,000,000 annually, and do incalculable damage to soil, water and young growth.

The laws in most states do not recognize forests as a crop to be perpetuated, but act to destroy the timber resources for the enrichment of the present to the poverty of the future.

Usually when dealing with a problem in which alien friends figure.

# Bargains in Lots

Four lots—50 x 100 each—for sale as a whole at \$200. This land cannot run away, and should enable its purchaser to double or more than double his money in a short time.

# Home for Sale

One block from Waialae car, 75 x 200 lot. 5 room house. Price \$2500.

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## VIEIRA JEWELRY CO., LTD.

Jewelers and Silversmiths.

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FOR UNEXCELLED BREAD AND CRACKERS.

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# Real Estate for Sale

One and one-half acres in Nuuanu Valley near car

House lot, Manoa Valley, 162x150 (24,300 sq. ft.)..... 3250

House and lot, Kaimuki, lot 100x150, with modern im-house ..... 3300

Two lots at Kaimuki one block from car line, each 75 x130, for cash..... 1100

Spreckels tract lot at Punahoa, 100x100, for..... 1600

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HONOLULU, T. H.